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DE RUEHAN #0091 0291349  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
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FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4230  
INFO RUEHZO/AFRICAN UNION COLLECTIVE  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0795

UNCLAS ANTANANARIVO 000091

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SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR'S FM MAKES PUBLIC STATEMENT ON AF CHARTER ON  
DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS AND GOVERNANCE AT AU SUMMIT

REF: STATE 10434

¶1. Malagasy Foreign Minister Marcel Ranjeva had already departed the country upon receipt of reftel demarche, to attend the preparatory meeting and then to lead the African Union (AU) Summit delegation for the Government of Madagascar.

¶2. Nonetheless, Madagascar's support for the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance should be solid, given that Minister Ranjeva made the following statement on the record regarding the Charter (translated from French, as reported in the Malagasy press):

"Madagascar identifies itself with this fundamental document and appreciates its goal, which is to consolidate democracy on the continent by promoting democratic principles and institutions, by enhancing participation by the population and good governance...".

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